

**LUMPKIN COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Special Called Meeting
AGENDA**

**Lumpkin County Park & Recreation Community Center
Activity Room Main
365 Riley Road
Dahlonega, Georgia**

**April 12, 2010
7:00 P.M.**

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Raber

II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

III. NEW BUSINESS

- **Justice Center Contracts**
 - McGarity's Office Products – Public Area Furniture Orders
(SPLOST Mgmt. Kevin Hamby)
- **Appointments**
 - Meet Candidates for Appointment to Boards & Authorities
- **2010 Lumpkin County Census Update**
 - U.S. Census Bureau – Christy Contreras

IV. ANNOUNCEMENTS

V. ADJOURN

Chairman Raber

**MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL CALLED MEETING OF THE
LUMPKIN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

April 12, 2010

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Raber called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Park & Recreation Community Center. Present were John Raber, Bill Scott, Tim Bowden, Clarence Stowers and Clarence Grindle.

INVOCATION

Commissioner Grindle led the invocation which was followed by the pledge of allegiance led by Chairman Raber.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion: Commissioner Bowden made a motion to approve the agenda which was seconded by Bill Scott. All district commissioners approved the motion and the motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

Justice Center Contracts

McGarity's Office Products – Public Area Furniture Orders (SPLOST Mgmt. Kevin Hamby)

The Justice Center Building Committee has recommended expenditures for furniture at the Justice Center for court and common areas in the amount of \$105,826.18. This is the total budget for public area furniture. The furniture must be ordered right away due to the lead time needed for purchase of courtroom furniture. The remainder of the \$300,000.00 total furniture budget is \$194,173.82 which is divided on a pro rata distribution based on square footage for the various elected officials.

Motion: Commissioner Stowers moved to purchase the recommended furniture for court and common areas. This motion was seconded by Clarence Grindle and approved by all district commissioners. Motion carried.

Appointments - Meet Candidates for Appointment to Boards & Authorities

This is an opportunity for the board to meet and ask questions of proposed appointees to the Dog Park Concept Committee and the Blackburn Park Committee.

Proposed members for the Dog Park Concept Committee are: Bill Scott as Chairman, Alan Roach, Sandy Steele, and Lyndal Caldwell. Assistant Principal at Blackburn Elementary, Jane Mullinax who is a suggested appointee to the Blackburn Park Committee was not present. Gary Garrett, also proposed for the Blackburn Park Committee, was not present at the beginning of the meeting. Chairman Raber explained that he will arrive later as he was delayed by other business.

Candidate Alan Roach – Tim Bowden asked Alan why he was interested in serving on this committee. Alan said he is open to discuss all sides of the issue to determine if county property should be used this way. Bill Scott asked him if he understood about the importance of attendance at the committee meetings.

Candidate Sandy Steele – Clarence Stowers asked Ms. Steele how vested she is in our community. She said she would not move away tomorrow because she just got here. She then said her family has owned property for some time in this community and her brother also lives here. Tim Bowden asked her if she would be willing, if facts developed that showed it was not the right time to have a dog park could she accept that? Ms. Steele said she would not do anything that would not benefit the community.

Candidate Brenda Norrell – Tim Bowden asked Ms. Norrell if she could have an open mind and try to do what is best for the community. Brenda said she was born and raised here.

Candidate Lyndal Caldwell - Tim Bowden asked about Mr. Caldwell's open-mindedness. Lyndal said he would be open-minded about it and that he is a dog lover.

Bill Scott as Chairman of the Dog Park Concept Committee asked that all the candidates go into this committee with an open mind. He said he will take whatever decisions are suggested by the committee back to the Board of Commissioners.

2010 Lumpkin County Census Update - U.S. Census Bureau – Christy Contreras

Ms. Contreras said that Lumpkin County's returned census forms are at 67% and the City of Dahlonega is 64%. She pointed out that the percent of returns is better than both the State of Georgia (63%) and Atlanta. She said that everywhere she goes the most frequent question asked is about the P.O. Boxes. Ms. Contreras explained the reason that forms are not mailed to post office boxes is because the census forms they are tied to a physical location of a residence. She said that beginning May 1 they will begin to go door-to-door and explained that each visit costs the taxpayer \$57.00.

Bill Scott complimented Ms. Contreras on how helpful she has been every time he or Gerald Lord have called upon her.

***Motion:** Commissioner Stowers made a motion 7:34 p.m. to go into executive session to discuss land acquisition. This motion was seconded by Clarence Grindle and approved by all district commissioners.*

EXECUTIVE SESSION

***Motion:** Commissioner Grindle made a motion at 7:43 p.m. to come of our executive session. This motion was seconded by Tim Bowden. Commissioners Scott, Bowden, Stowers and Grindle approved the motion. Motion carried.*

There were no announcements from the executive session.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Senior Center will have a yard sale.

Commissioner Stowers said he and the County Attorney attended the Lake Allatoona/Upper Etowah River Watershed Partnership meeting at which they learned that Pickens and Dawson Counties feel the same way as Lumpkin County regarding the recommendations of the partnership. Commissioner Stowers said Pickens and Dawson Counties feel what we are currently doing is adequate and that we are not raising the discharge to the Etowah. He said the consensus between Lumpkin, Pickens and Dawson is that increasing buffers would be a "wrongful taking". Commissioner Stowers then commented on the Evaluation by Commissioner document saying he thinks one more item needs to be added. That item is how each board, authority or committee was created. Commissioner Stowers reminded the board of a discussion by the BOC five years ago where the consensus was that if three meetings were missed that the person would be considered to have resigned. At that point a new appointment would be made.

Commissioner Bowden said he wonders how much authority BOC members have to investigate the Authorities. He said he wants to know how we ensure, going forward, that in the future we act in accordance with the founding documents and by-laws of each board, authority or committee. His stated concern is implementation and the need for a yearly review. Clarence Stowers will add his question to the bottom of his evaluation forms.

Commissioner Stowers then asked if there is going to be a plaque for the Justice Center. He said he thinks any plaque suggestion must be brought before the board for approval.

Commissioner Scott gave an update on the McDonald House stating that Commissioner Stowers has offered his services and that of his workers to shore up the house. During Gold Rush there will be fundraising project for McDonald House. Clarence Stowers said first weatherization needs to be done but the lot itself also needs some kind of a retaining wall. He said a decision must be made about what the end result is going to be for the McDonald House. He pointed out that if federal money is to be applied for that the grant people must be involved from the very beginning.

Blackburn Park Committee candidate Gary Garrett arrived at the meeting. Prior to hearing from Mr. Garrett the Chairman called for a short break at 8:09 p.m. The meeting was resumed at 8:12 p.m.

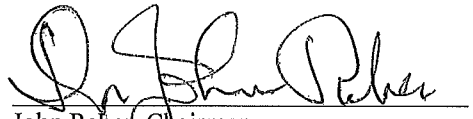
Commissioner Scott asked Mr. Garrett if he was prepared to attend meetings to which Mr. Garrett replied "yes". Commissioner Stowers asked that Mr. Garret talk about himself a bit. Commissioner Bowden asked what his thoughts are on Blackburn Park and what he sees would be good there. Mr. Garrett said he wants to see things for kids and families. There were no more questions.

ADJOURN

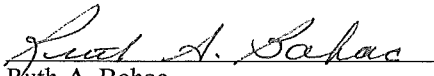
There being no further business Chairman Raber called for the meeting to adjourn at 8:18 p.m.

***Motion:** Commissioner Grindle moved to adjourn the meeting which was seconded by Bill Scott. All district commissioners approved the motion. The motion carried and the meeting was adjourned.*

4/15/2010
Date


John Raber, Chairman
Lumpkin County Board of Commissioners

Attest:


Ruth A. Bohac
Clerk, Lumpkin County